

## ECCENTRIC KIPLING.

BRATTLEBORO HARDLY KNOWS WHAT TO MAKE OF HIM.

He Wears Old Clothes, Smokes a Pipe, Hates Interviewers and Calls People Who Offend Him "Drivelling Idiots." His Odd Home on a Vermont Hill.

The modern romancer is often a man without a country. Robert Louis Stevenson, a Scotchman, recently died in Samoa, his adopted home. Bret Harte, the prince of American story tellers, has resided for years in London, and Kipling, born in India and educated in England, makes the United States his home. Kipling married an American girl, Miss Carolyn Balestier of Brattleboro, Vt., and their home is located on a hill four miles from Brattleboro. Mrs. Kipling is the daughter of J. N. Balestier, at one time a Chicago lawyer and later a large real estate owner in New York. One of her brothers, the late Wolcott Balestier, was an intimate friend of Mr. Kipling and collaborated with him in writing "The Naulakha."



KIPLING ON A COLD DAY.

tered by a long hall that runs the entire length of the building on the west side. Looking at the house from the highway, one wonders if Kipling, in his dread of the interviewer and the curious public, has built a house without a door, for no means of entering the strange looking residence are to be seen. There is a door, however, but it is at the rear of the house well concealed from view. At the southern end of the house is a double porch, from which may be obtained a magnificent view of the New Hampshire hills and the Connecticut valley. Kipling's study is located at this end of the house.

Kipling has caused a deal of local gossip since he located near Brattleboro, and the stories describing his eccentricities would fill a volume. He has very pronounced views on a great many subjects, but he reserves his strongest language for newspaper men. It is said that it is about as difficult to interview the Anglo-Indian novelist as it is to get President Cleveland to talk to a reporter for publication. If a reporter accosts him on the highway, he terms the incident an outrageous assault and takes to his heels. If eccentricity makes genius, Kipling is a genius of the first magnitude. For many years a seeker of fame and public attention, he now assumes the attitude of a shy and shrinking literary recluse whose motto is, "The public be something or other!" His aversion to reporters seems rather strange, too, when it is remembered that in India he was a newspaper man himself.

About the first thing Kipling did in a literary way after he arrived in Brattleboro was to write a story in which a town suspiciously like Brattleboro in certain respects was held up to ridicule. This did not make the people love him, but it made them talk, and Kipling enjoys making people talk, provided they do not talk to him. One of the sights of the town is to see him strolling along the streets, with his English pipe clutched between his teeth and an expression of unconquerable determination written upon every feature. He is anything but a dandy. He is fond of old clothes and affects a rusty sombrero that has seen better days and many of them. On cold days he goes abroad in a big fur coat and looks more like a Russian nihilist than an Indian novelist.

Like most Englishmen of means, however, Kipling usually dresses for dinner and appears at the table clad in the conventional dress suit of polite society. When he first made Brattleboro his home, he rather snubbed the society that sought him, but he has since become less exclusive, and he has a number of friends outside of the Balestier family, who picture him as a most companionable man and an entertaining, hospitable host. "Begad" and "damn" are two of his favorite words, and any one who offends him is usually referred to as "that drivelling idiot." He is very fond of children, and his baby, which is now about 2 years old, is monarch of all she surveys. He likes Vermont and declares that there is nothing like Vermont air for babies.

In his relations with the humble members of society Kipling is inclined to be very democratic. He scrapes an acquaintance with numerous odd characters he meets, and it is said he created some what of a sensation in Brattleboro one day by stopping a Chinaman on the street and conversing with him in Chinese for half an hour.

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## HISTORIC VIENNA IN CHICAGO.

Proposed Amusement Enterprise With the Largest Auditorium in the World.

Jealous critics of Chicago, who have heretofore declared that she has taken in the entire state of Illinois, now declare that she proposes to annex Vienna. Every fair minded person knows the first statement is untrue, but there is something in the second charge. Chicago, however, does not want the whole of Vienna. All she desires is the historic part, and this will be reproduced in a series of palatial structures called "Historic Vienna" and resembling but far surpassing, the "Old Vienna" of World's fair fame. The design is the work of World's fair architects, influential Chicago capitalists are behind the scheme, and a site with a frontage of 277 feet on North Clark street and 151 feet on Locust street has already been leased for 99 years.

Upon this site Historic Vienna will be erected in the near future. The architecture will be the renaissance mingled with the old German, as in vogue in Vienna. The particular scene that will be reproduced is the famous Mehlmarkt, or flour market. The height of the build-



THE PROPOSED "HISTORIC VIENNA."

ings will be five and six stories, and on the Clark street side the structures will be entered by the old city gate closely resembling the "Donnergasse" of the Mehlmarkt. Exterior and interior will be picturesque and romantic in the extreme.

The leading feature of Historic Vienna will be a monster auditorium resembling Royal Albert hall, London, in some respects, and Richard Wagner's Grand Festival hall, Baireuth, in others. The idea is to make it the greatest auditorium in the world, and the plans call for a seating capacity of 12,000. Royal Albert hall, the largest in Europe, seats only 8,000 people. The Chicago Auditorium seats 4,000, and Madison Square Garden, in New York, has accommodations for 9,000. The auditorium of Historic Vienna will consequently be a record breaker in seating capacity and is designed to draw the great music festivals of America to Chicago.

In the buildings will be a model hotel, 13 stores, a Vienna cafe, numerous amusement rooms and a permanent winter palm garden. With the aid of this hall Chicago expects to become the America Mecca of music, art and education.

## HE MAY BECOME POPE.

Career of Cardinal Galimberti, Who Is Such a Power in Rome.

If he lives, Pope Leo XIII will have reached the advanced age of 85 years on March 2, and as one so old must be near the end of life's journey there is considerable speculation as to his probable successor. A candidate who will doubtless receive many votes when the sacred college meets after Leo XIII's death is Cardinal Luigi Galimberti, whose rise to fame, power and the favor of the pope has been very rapid. A dozen years ago Cardinal Galimberti was the director of The Moniteur de Rome, a paper he had just founded with the approval of the pope. He was a thorough newspaper man and cut "copy" blue penciled manuscript, used the paste pot and scissors with a dexterity born of experience and soothed his nerves by smoking a pipe. His paper was subsidized by the pope and was a success, despite his rather eccentric manner of discontinuing publication during the summer months because "it was so hot in Rome no one wished to read newspapers."

In 1887 his tact and great ability had won for him the responsible post of assistant to Cardinal Jacobini, secretary



LUIGI GALIMBERTI.

of state, and as the cardinal was at death's door many matters of grave import were necessarily confided to Mgr. Galimberti by the pope, who speedily became very favorably impressed with his erudition and sound judgment. The latter Cardinal Jacobini signed, pledging Rome's support to Bismarck on the eve of his historic battle for his army bill, was written by Mgr. Galimberti, it is said.

After the death of Cardinal Jacobini the pope sent Mgr. Galimberti to represent him at the fete in honor of the aged Emperor William's jubilee. On his return he was made a nuncio and an archbishop, and after a successful mission to Austria he was elevated to the purple, becoming a cardinal and a prospective candidate for the papal chair. He is high in the favor of the pope and is considered one of the most powerful factors in church politics in Rome. If he is not chosen pope, he will without doubt have much to say as to who shall be the successful candidate.

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